

## PROCLAMATION LIGHTS ON AFTER SCHOOL MONTH OCTOBER 2005

WHEREAS, after school programs provide safe, challenging, engaging and fun learning experiences to help children and youth develop their social, emotional, physical, cultural and academic skills; and

WHEREAS, after school programs support working families by ensuring their children are safe and productive after the regular school day ends; and

WHEREAS, such programs help build stronger communities by involving families, schools and diverse community partners in the lives of our young people, thereby promoting positive relationships and advancing the welfare of our children; and

WHEREAS, North Dakota's after school programs have provided significant leadership in getting communities involved in the education and well-being of our youth, grounded in the principle that quality after school programs are key to helping our children become successful adults; and

WHEREAS, the North Dakota Extended School Network is working with partner organizations throughout the state to promote the importance of quality after school programs in the lives of children, their families, and their communities; and

**NOW, THEREFORE,** as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim October 2005, **LIGHTS ON AFTER SCHOOL MONTH** in the state of North Dakota.

/s/ John Hoeven Governor

Attest:

/s/ Alvin A. Jaeger Secretary of State